

## POL 486/2205H1 S TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS I

### Advanced Theory Workshop on Change in International Relations

#### Professor Emanuel Adler

Spring 2018

Monday 2:00-4:00

Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:00AM-12:00PM

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POL 486/2205 H1S is a graduate and an advanced undergraduate International Relations (IR) theory seminar dedicated to studying change in IR. While most IR theories implicitly evoke some kind of change in international relations, little attention has been given so far to theorizing change itself. The seminar will examine how change has implicitly and explicitly been studied in IR theory and will suggest new ways of thinking about change in international relations. We will conclude the workshop by asking whether change can be progressive and whether studying change in IR can contribute not only to IR theory more generally, but also to addressing IR's practical issues and problems. The students' research papers will aim at applying theories of change in practice.

#### Course Requirements:

Book Review—two books of your choice (2000 words) due February 26, 2018: 25%

Seminar Paper (5000 words) due April 9, 2018: 50%

Class Participation: 25%: 1) Two weekly questions on the readings (via email), no later than 8pm on Sunday; 2) Leading class, 5-7 minutes; 3) Occasional class presentation; 4) Quality of class participation.

**Communication:** course announcements and information will be posted in the "Blackboard," at U of T's Portal site: <https://portal.utoronto.ca/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp>

The "Blackboard" also allows communication between instructors and students.

I will be happy to receive and answer to your personal e-mail messages, as long as you use e-mail judiciously and sparingly.

## **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

### *Academic Integrity*

While I don't expect to encounter instances of cheating in this class, you should be aware that I take academic integrity very seriously, and that there are significant consequences if you are caught cheating or engaging in academic misconduct. All academic work in this course must adhere to the [Code of Behavior on Academic Matters](#).

- In written work, all sources used must be correctly cited, and if material is copied directly, appropriately cited and placed within quotation marks.
- Exams and tests must be written without the use or possession of unauthorized aids, including notes and cellular phones.
- If you work or study with friends, protect your work by not sharing or emailing your notes or assignments. You can help friends by discussing your ideas together and comparing your notes from lectures, but all written work must be completed on your own.
- You can find help with your assigned work by seeing me in office hours, speaking with your TA, or visiting the many [resources](#) available on campus.

### *Plagiarism*

According to U of T's Code of Behavior on Academic Matters: "It shall be an offence for a student knowingly: (d) to represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism....(e) to submit, without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere."

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and all cases of plagiarism will be sent to the Dean's Office for appropriate action. For further information on University of Toronto's policy regarding plagiarism you may look at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources>

### **Late Penalty Policy:**

No late penalty. All students are required to hand in their essays by the due date, except under extreme and critical health or family circumstances, in which case documentation is an absolute necessity.

### **Accessibility Needs:**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: [disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.

### **Accommodation for Religious Observances:**

It is the policy of the University of Toronto to arrange reasonable accommodation of the needs of students who observe religious holy days other than those already accommodated by ordinary scheduling and statutory holidays.

Students have a responsibility to alert members of the teaching staff in a timely fashion to upcoming religious observances and anticipated absences. Instructors will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, examinations or other compulsory activities at these times. If compulsory activities are unavoidable, every reasonable opportunity should be given to these students to make up work that they miss, particularly in courses involving laboratory work. When the scheduling of tests or examinations cannot be avoided, students should be informed of the procedure to be followed to arrange to write at an alternate time.

## **Main Themes**

- 1. Overview: IR Theory and Change**
- 2. IR Theories of Change**
- 3. “Clocks” and “Clouds; “Being” and “Becoming”**
- 4. Clocks: Systemic and Micro Theories**
- 5. Clouds: History, “Paradigms”**
- 6. Clouds: Networks, Institutions**
- 7. Clouds: Social Construction as Change and Stability**
- 8. Clouds/Becoming: Practice**
- 9. Evolution**
- 10. Complexity**
- 11. Clouds/Becoming: “Cognitive Evolution”**
- 12. Progress? Change in Practice**

## Bibliography

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### 2. IR Theories of Change

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